Customer Number 38107

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop PCT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment is further to the filing of US National application of PCT/IB2004/052770. Entry of the following amendments together with examination and consideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION

I certify that this Amendment and accompanying documents are being filed on the date indicated below by electronic transmission with the United States Patent and Trademark Office via the electronic filing system (EFS-Web).

Patricia A. Heim

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